

## Message Text

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73

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 PRS-01 M-03 A-01 CPR-01 L-02 H-03

RSR-01 /058 W

----- 111355

P 011616Z AUG 73

FM AMMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2494

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINGSTON 2540

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR JM

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR'S RECALL

REF: STATE 150094; KINGSTON 2454

1. I AM DELIGHTED SECRETARY AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY KUBISCH WERE ABLE TO MEET WITH DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE DAVID COORE DURING HIS RECENT VISIT TO WASHINGTON. THIS GESTURE SHOULD DO MUCH TO RESTORE THE NORMAL CLIMATE OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE GOJ AND USG. THE TIMELY, THOUGH BY NO MEANS HASTY, NOMINATION OF A NEW AMBASSADOR SHOULD COMPLETE THE PROCESS. THE THE ARRIVAL AND PRESENCE OF A NEW AMBASSADOR IN JAMAICA, HOWEVER, IS NOT NEARLY SO IMPORTANT AS THE ASSURANCE THAT WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF DELAYING NAMING A NEW ENVOY AS A SIGN OF DISPLEASURE AMBASSADOR DE ROULET'S RECALL

2. GENERAL ATMOSPHERE HAS IMPROVED MARKEDLY IN THE WEEK SINCE MY ARRIVAL. THE DE ROULET AFFAIR WILL UNDOUBTEDLY REMAIN IN BACK OF PEOPLE'S MINDS FOR A LONG TIME, AND WILL BE EXHUMED PERIODICALLY BY THE PRESS AS PRETEXTS ARISE. HOWEVER, THE RECALL HAS NEARLY  
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VANISHED FROM THE MEDIA AS NEWS, THOUGH SOME COLUMNISTS

AND LETTER WRITERS CONTINUE TO MUNCH ITS IMPLICATIONS. THE RAPID PROGRESS OF THE DE ROULET AFFAIR FROM THE HEADLINES TO THE ARCHIVES IN A COUNTRY THAT REVELS IN PUBLIC AND OFTEN ACRIMONIOUS DEBATE INDICATES A CONSCIOUS DESIRE OF BOTH MAJOR POLITICAL PARTIES AND THE MEDIA THEY CONTROL TO PLAY THE MATTER DOWN. THE HAPPY FACT IS THAT CONTINUED DEBATE IS NOT IN ANYBODY'S INTERESTS.

3. TIME STORY THIS WEEK MAY REVIVE THE ISSUE BRIEFLY BUT IS UNLIKELY TO BE TAKEN UP WIDELY IN JAMAICA GIVEN THE ALMOST UNIVERSAL DESIRE TO LET THE MATTER DROP.

4. THE FORMAL DEBATE IN PARLIAMENT ON THE ISSUE PROPOSED BY PRIME MINISTER MANLEY HAS BEEN REPEATEDLY POSTPONED, PRIMARILY BECAUSE HE HAS BEEN UNABLE TO SUPPLY SHEARER WITH THE NOTARIZED TEXT OF AMBASSADOR DE ROULET'S TESTIMONY WHICH HE HAD REQUESTED. MANLEY HAS NOW OFFERED TO SHEARER AN UNOFFICIAL BUT PROBABLY COMPLETE VERSION OF THE TEXT OBTAINED BY THE JAMAICAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON. NEVERTHELESS, THE DEBATE WILL PROBABLY NOT NOW BE HELD UNTIL SOMETIME IN AUGUST AND MAY BE DELAYED UNTIL SEPTEMBER. A DISCUSSION IN PARLIAMENT IS LIKELY TO TAKE PLACE EVENTUALLY TO ALLOW SHEARER AND THE OPPOSITION TO GO ON RECORD OFFICIALLY, WHICH THEY HAVE NOT YET DONE. BY THE TIME IT OCCURS, HOWEVER, THE ISSUE WILL HAVE LOST MUCH OF ITS CURRENCY.

5. MISSOLN CONTACTS WITH THE GOJ AT EVERY LEVEL INDICATE A CONSCIOUS DESIRE AND PROBABLY DIRECTION TO DO BUSINESS AS USUAL WITH US AND FORGET THAT THE DE ROULET AFFAIR EVER HAPPENED. HEWITT

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
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